

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A conscious sedation system comprising:
  - a) a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient and which analyses at least a response made by the patient to the request to determine a level of sedation of the patient; and
  - b) a response testing apparatus including:
    - (1) a request assembly which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller and which includes a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker and a pillow, wherein the speaker is disposed in the pillow; and
    - (2) a response assembly which senses the response and which communicates the response to the controller.
- 2-5. (canceled)
6. (currently amended) A request assembly for a response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system, wherein the conscious sedation system includes a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient, and wherein the request assembly comprises a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker, which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller, and a pillow, and wherein the speaker is disposed in the pillow.
- 7-9 (canceled)
10. (currently amended) The request assembly of claim [[9]] 6, also including an acoustic coupling gel disposed in the pillow.
- 11-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The request assembly of claim [[12]] 22, also including a cable, wherein the cable is operatively connectable to the controller and to the cable connector.

14. (currently amended) The request assembly of claim [[11]] 22, wherein the skull cap includes a plastic film having a periphery and an elastic band attached to the plastic film proximate the periphery.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The request assembly of claim [[15]] 23, wherein, when the skull cap is worn on the head of the patient, the inside of the skull cap covers an ear of the patient and the sound passageway at the outside of the skull cap is substantially aligned with the ear canal of the patient.

17. (original) The request assembly of claim 16, also including a sound tube, wherein the sound tube is operatively connectable to the speaker and to the sound-tube attachment site.

18. (currently amended) The request assembly of claim [[15]] 23, wherein the skull cap includes a plastic film having a periphery and an elastic band attached to the plastic film proximate the periphery.

19. (currently amended) A request assembly for a response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system, wherein the conscious sedation system includes a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient, and wherein the request assembly comprises:

a) a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller; and

b) a sound tube having one end disposable [proximate] in an ear canal or proximate a microphone of an assistive hearing device of the patient and having another end disposable proximate the speaker.

20. (canceled)

21. (new) A conscious sedation system comprising:

a) a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient and which analyses at least a response made by the patient to the request to determine a level of sedation of the patient; and

b) a response testing apparatus including:

(1) a request assembly which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller and which includes a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker and a skull cap and a tube connector attached to the outside of the skull cap, wherein the tube connector includes a sound-tube attachment site and includes a sound passageway extending from the outside of the skull cap to the sound-tube attachment site; and

(2) a response assembly which senses the response and which communicates the response to the controller.

22. (new) A request assembly for a response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system, wherein the conscious sedation system includes a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient, and wherein the request assembly comprises a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker, which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller, and a skull cap, a cable connector attached to the outside of the skull cap and a cord, wherein when the skull cap is worn on the head of the patient, the inside of the skull cap covers an ear of the patient and the cord operatively connects the speaker to the cable connector.

23. (new) A request assembly for a response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system, wherein the conscious sedation system includes a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient, and wherein the request assembly comprises a non-ear-canal-contacting speaker, which audibly communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller, and a skull cap and a tube connector attached to the outside of the skull cap, wherein the tube connector includes a sound-tube

attachment site and includes a sound passageway extending from the outside of the skull cap to the sound-tube attachment site.